



EMSL ANALYTICAL, INC. 107 HADDON AVENUE .WESTMONT, NJ 08108

PHONE: (845) 469-8671 FAX: (845) 231-6017

Sample Preparation of Libby Duff

ROUND 1

Duff test samples received in zip-lock plastic bags Sample 1

Initial Weight: 184.97g Dry weight: 174.29g

The initial trial involved an incremental ramp and soak scenario as follows:

100 C for 1 hour:

no visible change in sample

200 C for 1 hour:

no visible change

300 C for 3 hours:

smoking, core color now black

400 C for 2 hours

smoking stopped, sample color black

450 C for 18 hours:

Results

- Approximately 50% reduction in both volume and mass.
- Some complete ashing but much of the sample is still intact and black (not grey)









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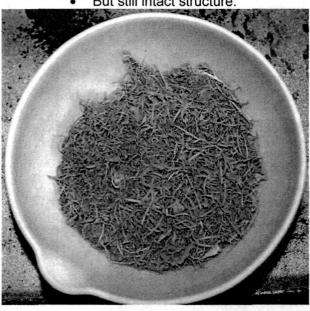
ROUND 2

In an effort to increase ashing efficiency of the large duff samples EMSL split the second test sample into 5 individual large crucibles with lids.

A guick ramp to 450 C followed by 18 hours

Results

- Approximately 44% reduction in mass.
- More complete ashing than the first run.
- But still intact structure.



The sample was then split

- 1 fraction going to further ashing (another 18 hours of ashing yielded only a 2% reduction)
- 1 fraction going to sonication and filtration

Sonication and Filtration

- 10g of ash put into 1Lsolution with DI water
- Sonication for 30 minutes
- Filtered 10ml, 25ml and 75ml (all overloaded)
- Lots of debris floats and sinks anyway
- Sieved remainder of unfiltered solution through a 500 micron sieve (lots of debris)

Conclusion: Further matrix reduction necessary (mortar/pestle? Acid?)





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ROUND 3One of the live duff samples was sieved through a 2mm sieve



Actual samples (not test samples) were received at the lab.

Many were of quite different makeup than the test samples.

Many were fairly wet and with a fair amount of soil included.

This is sample P1-00089 Station ID: SL 135-06

To estimate the volume of the soil component the sample was dried and sieved through a 2 mm sieve.

The top pan contains the > 2mm fraction (471.87g)

The bottom pan contains the < 2mm fraction (232.47)







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A sub-sample of each fraction was gravimetrically reduced by ashing for 18 hours

41.01 % remaining of >2mm fraction
82.41 % remaining of <2 mm fraction — Pim VE — no neelling ->

Call notes 10/16/07 0900

1) First and most entreal is can we get filterable samples using acrd, mortary Pestal or Snegermill. If not sieving makes little sense.

1) week

